GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:132
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006
COMMITTEE ON KASHMIR ISSUE
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formed various committees in May, 2006 to discuss the problems related to Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the composition of each committee alongwith their expertise about the State;

(c) the responsibilities fixed for each of such committee; and

(d) the time by which these committees are likely to submit their reports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (c) Prime Minister during the Second Round Table Conference on Jammu and Kashmir held at Srinagar on May 24-25, 2006, suggested the creation of five Working Groups comprising members from amongst those present at the conference or those nominated by parties and groups. The composition of these Groups is to be decided by the State Government in consultation with all parties and groups concerned.

These Working Groups are expected to deliberate and make recommendations on issues, namely

(i) Confidence building measures across segments of society in the State

(ii) Strengthening relations across the Line of Control

(iii) Economic development

(iv) Ensuring good governance

(v) Strengthening relations between the State and the Centre. These groups are allowed to co-opt experts, if they so desire. As reported by the State Government, the following eminent persons have accepted the invitation of Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to head the Working Group mentioned against each:

1. Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari: Confidence building measures across segments of society in the State

2. Shri M K Rasgotra: Strengthening relations across the Line of Control

3. Dr. C Rangarajan, Economic Development

4. Shri N C Saxena : Ensuring Good Governance

The State Government has since constituted the Working Group on `Confidence building measures across segments of society in the State`. All 17 members of this Group are from the State of Jammu and Kashmir and they represent various mainstream political parties, regions and ethnic groups in the State.

(d) The Working Groups are expected to submit their reports as soon as is possible.